

Claims

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method for displaying a plurality of
items in a list on a display screen, comprising the steps of:
 displaying a first control object on said
display screen; and
 displaying a list comprising at least two
10 items in said first control object;
 wherein at least one item displayed at a
border of said first control object is only partially displayed.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising
15 displaying a focus frame within said first control object, said
focus frame operative to supply a visual indication of user
control of the list displayed in said first control object.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein said focus
20 frame is positioned on one item displayed in said first control
object.
4. The method of claim 3 wherein said visual
indication includes an altered border surrounding said item.
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5. The method of claim 3 wherein said visual
indication includes displaying said item in a different color
than surrounding items.
- 30 6. The method of claim 3 wherein said visual
indication includes displaying graphics associated with said
item.

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7. The method of claim 3 wherein said visual indication includes magnification of said item compared to surrounding items.

5 8. The method of claim 3 wherein said items in said list can be scrolled through said focus frame.

10 9. The method of claim 8 wherein said focus frame includes a visual indication that the items in the list can be scrolled through said focus frame in a specified direction.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein said visual indication includes arrow tabs appended to said focus frame.

15 11. The method of claim 9 wherein said focus frame is static and remains in a constant position relative to said first control object.

20 12. The method of claim 9 wherein said focus frame is dynamic and shifts relative to said first control object.

25 13. The method of claim 1 wherein said first control object extends to at least two borders of said display screen.

30 14. The method of claim 1 wherein said first control object displays items in a two dimensional grid, wherein at least two items displayed at two borders of said first control object are only partially displayed.

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15. The method of claim 3 further comprising the steps of:

scrolling items in the list through said focus frame until a desired item is displayed within said focus frame;
5 and

selecting said item within said focus frame to initiate a function associated with said item.

16. The method of claim 1 further comprising displaying a second and third control object, each said second and third control object being able to alternatively accept focus for controlling scrolling of items in said list.
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17. The method of claim 16 wherein said second control object controls scrolling of items in said list in a first direction and said third control object controls scrolling of items in said list in a second direction.
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18. The method of claim 1 further comprising displaying a second control object, said second control object being able to accept focus for controlling scrolling of items in said list in each direction.
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19. A system, in connection with an interactive network system, for displaying a plurality of items in a list on a television display screen, comprising:
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a first control object displayed on said display screen; and

a list, including at least two items, displayed in said first control object;
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wherein at least one item displayed at a border of said first control object is only partially displayed.

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20. The system of claim 19 further comprising a focus frame displayed within said first control object, said focus frame operative to supply a visual indication of user control of the list displayed in said first control object.

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21. The system of claim 20 wherein said focus frame is positioned on one item displayed in said first control object.

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22. The system of claim 21 wherein said visual indication includes an altered border surrounding said item.

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23. The system of claim 21 wherein said visual indication includes displaying said item in a different color than surrounding items.

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24. The system of claim 21 wherein said visual indication includes displaying graphics associated with said item.

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25. The system of claim 21 wherein said visual indication includes magnification of said item compared to surrounding items.

26. The system of claim 21 wherein said items in said list can be scrolled through said focus frame.

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27. The system of claim 26 wherein said focus frame includes a visual indication that the items in the list can be scrolled through said focus frame in a specified direction.

28. The system of claim 27 wherein said visual indication includes arrow tabs appended to said focus frame.

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29. The system of claim 27 wherein said focus frame is static and remains in a constant position relative to said first control object.

5 30. The system of claim 27 wherein said focus frame is dynamic and shifts relative to said first control object.

31. The system of claim 19 wherein said first control object extends to at least two borders of said display screen.
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32. The system of claim 19 wherein said first control object displays items in a two dimensional grid, wherein at least two items displayed at two borders of said first control object are only partially displayed.
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33. The system of claim 21 wherein said items in said list can be scrolled through said focus frame and selected by a user of said interactive network system manipulating a remote control unit operatively connected to said interactive network system.
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34. The system of claim 19 further comprising a second and third control object displayed on said display screen, each said second and third control object being able to alternatively accept focus for controlling scrolling of items in said list.
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35. The system of claim 34 wherein said second control object controls scrolling of items in said list in a first direction and said third control object controls scrolling of items in said list in a second direction.
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36. The system of claim 19 further comprising a second control object displayed on said display screen, said second control object being able to accept focus for controlling scrolling of items in said list in each direction.

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37. The system of claim 34 wherein focus can be moved between control objects by a user of said interactive network system manipulating a remote control unit operatively connected to said interactive network system.

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38. The system of claim 36 wherein focus can be moved between control objects by a user of said interactive network system manipulating a remote control unit operatively connected to said interactive network system.

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